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Call City Desk, 222-6600



SUSAN WATSON

Please, senators, do not apologize

To: State Sens. Gil DiNello and Jack Welborn
From: A voter
Re: Apologies
Dear Gentleman:

By this time, you probably have been bombarded with angry calls and letters, all because you happened to joke about the female anatomy in the presence of a female reporter.

Some folks, both male and female, will demand that you apologize for your crude remarks. These same people will accuse you of verbal harassment and insensitivity. They'll label you boorish, beef-headed and Neanderthal.

In fact, they'll probably blow a gasket each time they reread the remarks you guys made when that journalist — a 20-year-old student reporter on a college newspaper — said she asked you about pending legislation to regulate nude dancing. According to that journalist, the exchange went thusly:

Welborn: "So, how's that DiNello titty bill going?"

DiNello, lifting his lapels on his sports coat and laughing: "Well, they're still here."

Welborn, laughing, to me (reporter Jennifer Van Doren): "You didn't hear that, right?"

Yes, remarks were made

Both of you admitted to making those remarks on the Senate floor and in front of a reporter. Both of you, for various reasons, refused to admit you did anything wrong.

In light of that, I want to give you a piece of heartfelt advice:

Don't apologize. Ever.

Continue to defend your crude remarks with such lame-brained excuses as Welborn's "I'm a dairy farmer. I've used the word 'tits' all my life."

Continue, as has DiNello, to blame the reporter who was shocked by the sound and sight of two wrinkled old men trying to prove their masculinity by using crude sexual references in front of a woman young enough to be their granddaughter.

Continue, gentlemen, to wrap yourselves in a mantle of outrage and to accuse the reporter of "eavesdropping," of all things. Never ever stop trying to play this off as a misunderstanding by a high-strung young woman who's caught up in that political correctness nonsense.

Keep on keepin' on.

Bitter reminders of disease

You see, my dears, we need people like you. You guys remind us of how much work remains in the struggle for equality. Your square-jawed intransigence hardens our resolve to defeat the bullyboys of the world.

With just a few ill-chosen words, you have become the poster children for the socially impaired and the sexually inept.

Bully for you.

Long may you rant and rave and rail. May stories about your behavior be passed through the generations. Today, you are living proof of the problems women face. In our tomorrows, you will be a solid reminder of a hideous disease that once ravaged the minds of so many men.

Your words are part of history now. Even after men and women begin to view each other as equals, you will stand as an example of the loathsome nature of supremacist thinking. Thank you.

Humankind needs to be reminded of its failures and pitiful shortcomings to keep from repeating them.

Someday in the future, someone just might try to deny existence of male chauvinism and sexual harassment, just as some now try to deny the existence of the Holocaust and the evils of slavery.

Your actions on the Senate floor will help refute the claims of any future distorters of history. After your performance, no one will ever be able to deny that sexism once invaded every nook and cranny of society, including the hallowed halls where our laws are made.

Future generations will look back at Gil DiNello and Jack Welborn and say, "Never again."

Look guys, take it from me: Never apologize.

Stand your ground, you defenders of intolerance. Although your numbers are still sizable, you are a dying breed. So go ahead. Bellow and roar and beat your chests. Flex your muscles, swagger around the room and hitch up your pants.

Let everyone see what fools mere leaders can be.

U.S. attorney restates his case

BY CHRISTOPHER COOK
Free Press Staff Writer

The wood-paneled walls of Stephen Markman's office in the federal courthouse downtown are bare.

A globe, one of the first items he bought after then-President George Bush named him U.S. attorney four years ago, sits on a stack of pictures in a corner next to a cream leather sofa ready to go.

Today, Markman will clear out of his 8th-floor office with its view of the Detroit River, ending a four-year tenure as Eastern Michigan's chief federal prosecutor.

His successor will be appointed by President Bill Clinton, perhaps by midsummer. An interim U.S. attorney, possibly someone already in the office, is expected to be named today, according to a spokeswoman for the Justice Department in Washington.

Markman, 43, took over the office

Markman blames city for strained ties

in April 1989, succeeding Roy Hayes. A Detroit native, he had been head of the Justice Department's legal policy office in Washington before getting the appointment as U.S. attorney.

The job pays \$113,000.

In a parting interview Thursday, he acknowledged that it has not been an easy four years.

The most troubling matter for Markman was his strained relationship with Mayor Coleman Young. The relationship grew so poor that it widened a schism between city police and federal agencies such as the FBI, the Bureau of Alcohol Tobacco and Firearms and the Drug Enforcement Administration.

"I had a chance to have lunch with

Mayor Young shortly after I came back to Detroit," Markman said, "and one of my objectives was to strengthen the relationship between federal law enforcement and the local community. Obviously I regret that that's not been successful."

"I think the community is very ill-served by the fact that there is such a poor relationship. It's a tragedy that there hasn't been greater cooperation," he said.

But he added, "If the cost of restoring those relationships is to turn a blind eye to obvious abuses of power within the city of Detroit, that's just too high a cost."

The difficulties reached new heights when Markman's office won a conviction against former Police Chief William Hart, the mayor's appointee. The FBI was aided in the case by Kenneth Weiner, a civilian deputy chief.



JOHN COLLIER/Detroit Free Press

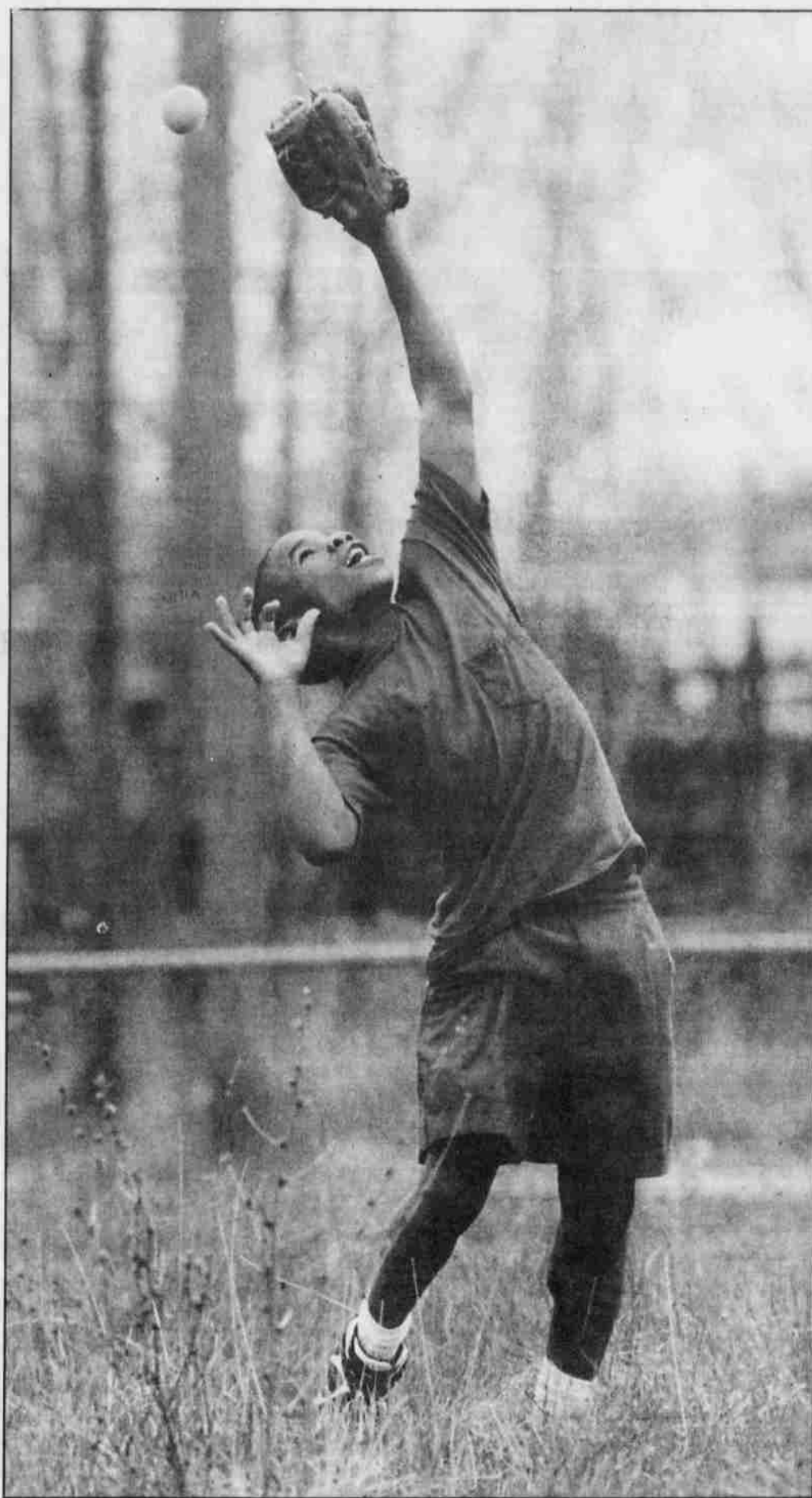
Stephen Markman, outgoing U.S. attorney for eastern Michigan, won high praise despite often poor relationships with Detroit officials.

Hart was convicted in May 1992 of embezzling more than \$2.3 million from the police secret-service fund. He began serving a 10-year sentence at Camp Parks, a northern California minimum security prison camp, in

September.

Bob Berg, Young's press secretary, blames Markman for the strains. "If he wanted to develop a good relationship he shouldn't have turned See MARKMAN, Page 8B

IN MID-SEASON FORM



CRAIG FUJII/Detroit Free Press

Ah, spring, when a young man's fancy turns to . . . playing ball. Desmond Hunt, 12, shagged fly balls hit by his twin brother, DeMond, at Kercheval and Concord on Detroit's east side Thursday.

Police officer fatally shoots unarmed man

BY L.A. JOHNSON
Free Press Staff Writer

A Detroit police officer in the special crimes unit fatally shot an unarmed man on the city's southwest side Wednesday night.

The man, tentatively identified as Jose Ituralde, 44, received multiple gunshot wounds to the chest and was dead on arrival at Detroit Receiving Hospital.

According to police, Ituralde walked up to officers in the area of West Vernor and Morrell shortly before 11:30 p.m. and provoked an argument with them. Police officials would not say how many officers were in the argument or whether they were in uniform.

The 35-year-old officer, believing he saw the man reach into his jacket for a weapon, fired several shots, striking the man six times.

No gun was found on Ituralde.

The officer was not identified by name. He is a seven-year veteran of the department and has been taken off street duty pending an investigation by the department's board of review.

The special crimes unit handles youth and gang-related crime.

"If the officer fears his life is in danger, he has a right to protect himself," Police Chief Stanley Knox said Thursday when questioned about the shooting.

But the department did not say what sparked the argument and didn't offer an explanation as to why the officer fired so many times.

Knox said he didn't know when the review board would turn over its findings on the case.

An employee at a Salvation Army shelter at 14th and Michigan said Ituralde had been living there under the name of Jose Valdez, but was kicked out after a week for violating

"If the officer fears his life is in danger, he has a right to protect himself."

STANLEY KNOX,
Detroit police chief

curfew and getting drunk. He was readmitted but left two weeks later.

Anca Talevska, owner of the V & L bar on West Vernor, two blocks from where the shooting occurred, said Ituralde came into her bar around 11 p.m. Wednesday. She said he looked around, said nothing and walked out. At about 11:30 p.m. she heard gunshots.

Minutes later, a woman who Talevska said hung around with Ituralde came running into the bar with a panicked look.

"She said he got shot. I locked up immediately," Talevska said.

At Charlie Clark's Bar on West Vernor, near the scene of the shooting, about 10 patrons were inside shooting pool, playing the juke box, and sitting around talking when three or four popping sounds were heard from outside.

"Everybody thought it was firecrackers," said Verona Johnson, the night bartender.

In the windows across the street, patrons could see the reflections of flashing red lights from police cruisers. Some of the patrons went to the corner where police were gathering, then returned to the bar after learning of the shooting, Johnson said.

Free Press Staff Writer Cecil Angel contributed to this report.

Warren officials had stake in body shop used by city

BY ROBIN FORNOFF
Free Press Staff Writer

Warren Mayor Ronald Bonkowski and Controller Richard Fox last year had a financial stake in a body shop that did work for the city, according to a review of public records.

The city officials had co-signed on a loan for new equipment for Showcase Collision Inc. of Warren, owned by Fox's brother, Michael Fox. They would have been on the hook if the business hadn't prospered enough to pay its debts.

Both Bonkowski and Richard Fox said Thursday that even though they co-signed the loan, they were not partners in Showcase Collision and never had been, although they had considered it.

The officials said they didn't see any conflict of interest in the city's dealings with Showcase Collision.

A security note filed by Comerica Bank in December 1989 at the Macomb County Register of Deeds shows all three signed for unspecified

debt on a paint booth for Showcase. Body shop owners say such a booth would have cost about \$50,000 — a figure Michael Fox said was close to what it cost.

Documents obtained by the Free Press show the city has paid Showcase at least \$3,000 for work on city vehicles in 1992.

"I am not now, nor have I ever been a partner of Showcase Collision," said Bonkowski, whose city business dealings with friends have attracted the attention of the U.S. attorney's office.

Bonkowski is under investigation by federal authorities for his part in steering a \$16-million city trash-hauling contract to longtime friend and political benefactor, Quirino D'Alessandro. D'Alessandro's \$1.5-million Clinton Township home was seized by the Secret Service last September as part of a gambling, money-laundering and bank-fraud scheme.

Bank-kiosk said the \$3,179 paid See BONKOWSKI, Page 8B

Readers help student visit China

BY DEBRA ADAMS
Free Press Education Writer

China, here she comes. Tannis Sertima's dream to spend the summer there studying medicine apparently will come true.

More than 120 people pledged their financial support after an article Wednesday in the Free Press described Tannis' efforts to raise more than \$2,000 to reach her goal of \$4,000.

"I don't know how to thank all of the people who called," Tannis' mother, Rowena Sertima, said Thursday.

Tannis, 16 and a junior at Detroit's Cody High School, will learn about Chinese medical practices, including acupuncture and herbal medicine, as part of a delegation of 10 other U.S. students attending the



TANNIS SERTIMA

People to People Youth Science Exchange. The trip had appeared out of reach as Saturday's tuition deadline approached.

Some who called the Sertimas criticized the Spokane, Wash.-based program for failing to provide scholarships to guarantee students' participation.

The program doesn't have the resources to do that, said coordinator Keith Currie.

Detroit residents, suburbanites and Cody High alumni came to Tannis' rescue.

The first call came at 7 a.m. from a UAW-Chrysler employee. Others came from Macomb Hospital, the Highland Park Police Department, a Rotary Club and Marygrove College. Several people promised to make up any shortfall in donations, assuring Tannis' trip.

"What a fantastic opportunity," said Barbara Krueger of Hartland, who sent a check. "It sounds like she must be a very special young lady to be that highly thought of. What more to give a girl — an incentive to go on to higher education. She must have that little spark."